THE EXCITER

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40 METERS

With band conditions in the miserable state they are in these days it is an oddity when some DX shows up. VE3KT, Alf, was putting in a good signal to SA. Was able to hear some of the eastern US stations working some of the rare DX, however, it was not possible to hear the DX stations here.

There have been several visitors to San Antonio recently doing their operating mobile. They were K5POD/m Lena of Houston and K5SWK/m, Otis.

Some new Generals showing up on 40. WA5DFO - - K5LLK (passed the General exam at the Convention in Corpus) - - WA5BOP (that call sends me).

Newcomers to our town and operating on 40 meters WA6GBB/5, Wes, and his Jr Op WA6GBC. Also Frank, WA6TSY/5. A big Texas Howdy to these folks.

Heard on 40 recently--- W5EJT/m, K5BJZ/m, K5RNO, Fred (welcome back), W5UKE, W5KLV, W5JVZ, W5EXZ, K5VDO, K5EBC and W5LJQ.

Lets hear from more people -- 73--

K5MOF, Aubrey

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WITH THE BEXAR COUNTY AREC

Look for W5SC on the air from a fixed location in the very near future. We hope to have the District 7 Hurricane Watch Net organized and operational sometime during the later part of September. We still need representation from Gillespie, Gonzales and LaSalle Counties to complete organization of the net. Anyone knowing amateurs in these counties capable of operating 75 Meters either AM or SSB please let us know. Plans are to consolidate the present Bexar County 75 Meter Net and the District 7 HWN on 3980 kc. K5IEG and K5TGA are the Assistant Emergency Coordinators for 75 Meter AREC Activities.

The current Bexar County 6 Meter Net and 6 Meter FM Net are being combined into one net with W5VPQ and K5PKX as Assistant Emergency Coordinators for that AREC Activity.

We hope to have revised Net Directories printed and in the hands of all AREC members by late September.

Thanks to W8TSP, W5VPQ, K5MQK, W5EJT, K5LLK and K5BDR for their service and efforts in the recent search for the boy who was lost in Garner State Park. Their contributions and willingness to serve are in the highest tradition and a credit to Amateur Radio.

73 Lee K5HZR

EC San Antonio/Bexar County

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SSBing AROUND SAN ANTONIO

The DX is very scarce at the present time on SSB. Dick McKercher, WØMLY is back home and on 20 meters most everyday. He just spent three months in Africa and gave many people eight new countries. If you have not received a card for one of those countries just send one direct to Dick and you will receive one in return. Our hats off to Dick for a wonderful job.

I have spent many hours on 20 meters the past two weeks and every time I start a QSO there are many number of breakers wanting phone patches into San Antonio. I am sorry, but I don't run patches any more unless they are emergency, but for these people that like patch work just get on 20 meters and I assure you there is plenty of business waiting. I set on 14.316 MC, so drop in and visit any chance you get.

Lee, K5HZR, has got the SSB rig working now and we are looking forward to hearing more out of him. He has even forced Aubrey K5MOF to copy Sideband, so things are looking rough for some of these old die hards. Hi.

There was a very interesting note in last month in regards to QSL cards. It seems that a South African QSL Survay was made and only 30 out of 526 U.S. QSL's showed the county. Maybe a lot of Amateurs don't realize it but there is a beautiful certificate for working all U.S. Counties. The certificates comes in a number of classes, therefore, the county on your card is important.

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VHF Editor ---------- W5LFM
DX Editor ---------- W5LGG
40 Meter Editor ---------- K5MOF
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THE SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB, W5SC
W5EJT, Pres. K5VCR, V. P.
W5EDZ, Sec. K5UKN, Treas.

In doing some research on certificates I came upon the Cardinal Awards, which is given for working 10 largest cities in Ohio, 2 way SSB Contacts with 30 Stations in 20 Counties of Ohio. 6 meter contacts with 30 Stations in 20 Counties of Ohio, YL. same ratio, Cardinal Mobile, same ratio and the Cardinal Novice with the 30/20 ratio. All of these certificates are issued by W8AJW and make very nice wall paper.

The Heath Co. has come out with a new monitor scope which looks nice. I should have one here in the near future so should be able to give a report one it soon. I am still awaiting that news from you each month, but so far the phone hasn't rang, so you will have to put up with what I think and like about Strickly Sideband.

73's.
Mac W5BVI

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DX Notes by W5LGG

It seems possible that Amateur Radio DX-peditioners may become the new generation of explorers. In the now somewhat competitive search for new countries, individuals and groups are combing the seven seas looking for any bit of land that might qualify as a "New Country," then activating it with gusto. Sand strips and rocks that have been host only to seabirds for centuries have been invaded and practically ionized with R. F. Sometimes, however, the DX-peditioners have been bitterly disappointed when their rare site was denied country status.

This brings up the question; What constitutes a new country, and who determines it? Since the creation of DXCC in the early thirties, the ARRL DXCC Committee has been the acknowledged authority on such matters, and the ARRL countries list has been adopted by nearly every National Radio Society in the world. The committee consists of seven members and has certain established rules on country status decisions. To amplify the basic criteria of polical or administrative independence and geographical separation, the committee has ruled uninhabited or unclaimed isles, or separately administrated inlands more than 225 miles distant from other established countries shall be recognized as DX countries. This is the rule which gave Serrana Bank, Malpelo Island, the Aves Isles and the Kamaran Islands separate status. Also, where foreign territory divides a country with at least a 75 mile separation, each portion of the divided country is credited separately - for example, East and West Pakistan, Alaska, and the United States.

When a colonial possession achieves independence, as for example, Jamaica or Congo, new country status depends upon the disposition of territory. If the boundaries remain unchanged after independence, the new nation does not count as a new country; but if independence adjusted the border lines, the new nation counts separately from the old colony. Thus, Jamaica and Congo do not count separately from the colonies they once were, while each of the new African Republics carved from the Vast French West African and Equatoriol African Territories does count separately - for example, Tchad,

In Memoriam

Paul I. Berns - K5OHG

MODERN ELECTRONICS CO.

Mali, Mauritania and Senegol. Thus, the search goes on. Map sales are reported brisk as adventursome hams search for some long-forgotten spot 225 miles from anywhere that might be recognized as a new country. There is a lure here not unlike that of mountain climbing, and those afflicted with DX-pedition - it is report it virtually uncureable.

ACTIVE AND AVAILABLE (?) As this goes to press, the VR3L/VR1 British Phoenix Islands DX-pedition is stirring up great clouds of QRM; W4BPD is reported sidetracked from VQ8 to ZS7,8, & 9 and perhaps ZD9, and that heavy panting you hear is the DX gang waiting breathlessly for the appearance of PYØNG from Brazil's Trinidade Island.

Hope you get them all.

73 & DX,
Len, W5LGG

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VHF AND UP

As was announced in September QST, KH6UK and W1BU completed 2-way contact via moonbounce on 1296 mc. CW. Just 16 years ago, the whole world would have said that this was an impossible feat, certainly not amateurs and certainly not 1296 mc! For it was just in 1946 that the Army Signal Corps received radar echoes from the moon on 112 mc.

Already LASER beams have bounced coherent light off the moon and echoes received back in the lab. The next ten years should show even more intriguing feats accomplished by radio amateurs, perhaps as the following.

OUT OF THE BAND

There was a man named Hazer
Who talked to the moon with his Laser
He thought it was smart
To call CQ in the dark
Using his garnet crystal Laser.
But the FCC took his by surprise
For they too scanned toward the skies.
The trouble it seemed
Came from the color he beamed
It wasn't garnet
It was ruby, darn it!

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New Tronics, Etc.

TELSTAR produced quite a bit of exitement in Europe with TV relayed from the satellite being shown widely throughout the land. When the Cosmonauts went up, however, and their TV pictures were shown directly from the capsules to viewers in Europe, the Russians refused to permit the TV to be relayed back to the States via Telstar. They wanted to keep the 2 unique events completely separate!

Vostok III and IV, per Space Track, had voice communications on 20.006 and 143.625 mc., with tones on 19.995 and 19.990 mc., resp. Cosmos II, the predecessor, transmitted on 20.005 and 90.011 mc.

While we are pretty modern in the U.S., the following squib is quoted as the wonderment for the day. From the Hofer Anzeiger, 6 Aug 62, as part of the daily weather column comes the modern observation: Air radioactivity; three picocuries. Danger limit: 220 picocuries. (a pico in one thousand times smaller than a nano, like a micro-micro) Regards for now.

Cal Graf, W5LFM

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SILENT KEYS:

It is with regret that we report Silent Keys for K5OHG, Paul I. Berns. Most hams in the San Antonio area know Paul as the Manager of Modern Electronics Co.

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